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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 7392/71228

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAY 14 2003

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In re Application of:

POELSTRA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1646

Application No.: 09/806,837

Examiner: Janet L. Andres

Filed: July 23, 2001

For: PEPTIDE BASED CARRIER DEVICES FOR STELLATE

May 12, 2003

RESPONSE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window, Mail Stop **Non-Fee Response**
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:


Applicants respectfully respond to the February 12, 2003 Requirement for Restriction. The Examiner presented Groups I-V, as recited on page 2. Applicants respectfully request re-joinder so that all claims can and are examined in one application. Please reconsider and withdraw the requirement for restriction. Subject to traverse, Applicants elect Group IV, "claim(s) 1-17, 14, 16-29, drawn to compositions and methods of use of cyclic SRNLIDC peptides.") Applicants respectfully submit examination and prior art searching can be conducted without a species election. Nonetheless, Applicants elect, with traverse, liver fibrosis as the species.

Applicants' U.S. representative just recently became aware that Goto, M., Nippon Rinsko, 1994, 52 (8): 2214-24, has been cited in a foreign prosecution matter. An English language abstract is all that is currently available to the undersigned, and a copy thereof is attached for the Examiner's independent, careful review and consideration.

Applicants request an early and favorable action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

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